

WHAT I CLAIM IS:

1. A method for routing a call from a calling party to a called party comprising the steps of:
- 5 (a) receiving the call at a service switching point;
 - (b) querying a service control point for instructions to route the call;
 - (c) providing information related to the call to a GIS system;
 - (d) obtaining a forwarding telephone number of the called party from the GIS system; and
 - 10 (e) routing the call to a location associated with the forwarding telephone number.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a telephone number of the calling party to the GIS system.
3. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of obtaining the forwarding telephone number based on the telephone number of the calling party.
- 15 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a street address of the calling party to the GIS system.
5. The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of obtaining the forwarding telephone number based on the street address of the calling party.
- 20 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of providing X-Y coordinates of the calling party to the GIS system.
7. The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of obtaining the forwarding telephone number based on the X-Y coordinates of the calling party.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the location is an optimal location based on criteria set by the called party.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the optimal location is a location that is physically closest to the calling party.

5 10. The method of claim 8, wherein the optimal location is a location that has the least travel time from the calling party.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the GIS system is maintained by the called party.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the GIS system is maintained by a telephone company.

13. A system for routing a call from a calling party to a called party comprising:

(a) a service switching point;

(b) a trigger provisioned at the service switching point for detecting the call, wherein the trigger causes the service switching point to generate a query; and

(c) a service control point for receiving the query and for obtaining a forwarding telephone number from a GIS system,

wherein the forwarding telephone number is associated with a location of the called party, and

wherein the call is routed to the location of the called party.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the trigger is a PODP trigger.

15. The system of claim 13, wherein the location is an optimal location based on criteria set by the called party.

16. A method for routing a call from a calling party to a called party comprising the steps of:

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- (a) receiving the call at a service switching point;
 - (b) querying a service control point for instructions to route the call;
 - (c) presenting the calling party with a menu of choices;
 - (d) receiving from the calling party a selection based on the menu of choices;
 - (e) providing the selection to a GIS system;
 - (f) obtaining a forwarding telephone number of the called party from the GIS system; and
 - (g) routing the call to a location associated with the forwarding telephone number.
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15 17. The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of providing a telephone number of the calling party to the GIS system.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of obtaining the forwarding telephone number based on the telephone number of the calling party.

20 19. The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of providing a street address of the calling party to the GIS system.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising the step of obtaining the forwarding telephone number based on the street address of the calling party.

21. The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of providing X-Y coordinates of the calling party to the GIS system.

22. The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of obtaining the forwarding telephone number based on the X-Y coordinates of the calling party.

5 23. The method of claim 16, wherein the location is an optimal location based on criteria set by the called party.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the optimal location is a location that is physically closest to the calling party.

25. The method of claim 23, wherein the optimal location is a location that has the least travel time from the calling party.

26. The method of claim 16, wherein the location is an optimal location based on the selection received from the calling party.

27. A method for routing a call from a calling party to a called party comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving the call at a service switching point;
- (b) querying a service control point for instructions to route the call;
- (c) providing information related to the call to a GIS system;
- (d) obtaining a plurality of forwarding telephone numbers from the GIS system;
- 20 (e) soliciting the calling party to select one of the plurality of forwarding telephone numbers;

(f) routing the call to the one of the plurality of forwarding telephone numbers if the calling party responds within a predetermined duration; and

(g) routing the call to a default location if the calling party fails to respond within the predetermined duration.

28. The method of claim 27, further comprising the step of providing a telephone number of the calling party to the GIS system.

29. The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of obtaining the forwarding telephone number based on the telephone number of the calling party.

30. The method of claim 27, further comprising the step of providing a street address of the calling party to the GIS system.

31. The method of claim 30, further comprising the step of obtaining the forwarding telephone number based on the street address of the calling party.

32. The method of claim 27, further comprising the step of providing X-Y coordinates of the calling party to the GIS system.

33. The method of claim 32, further comprising the step of obtaining the forwarding telephone number based on the X-Y coordinates of the calling party.

34. The method of claim 27, wherein each of the plurality of forwarding telephone numbers is associated with a location of the called party.

35. The method of claim 27, wherein the default location is the called party's corporate headquarters.

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36. The method of claim 27, wherein the default location is the called party's customer service representative.

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